Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 USUN N 04787 01 OF 02 180622Z ACTION IO-14

R 180034Z NOV 77 FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7624 AMEMBASSY LONDON AMCONSUL BELIZE

CONFIDENTIAL SECTION 1 OF 2 USUN 4787

DEPT PASS TO ALL ARA DIPLOMATIC POSTS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PORG, UNGA, BH, GT, UK

SUBJ: 32 ND UNGA: FOURTH COMMITTEE: BELIZE

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED:

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: ON NOVEMBER 17, THE FOURTH COMMITTEE OVERWHELMINGLY REJECTED TWO AMENDMENTS PROPOSED BY EL SALVADOR TO THE UK:CARIBBEAN NONALIGNED DRAFT RESOLUTION ON BELIZE (L.24). FOLLOWING THAT, L.24 WAS ADOPTED BY A VOTE OF 115(MEXICO, VENEZUELA)-5-16(US) AND THE GUATEMALAN DRAFT RESOLUTION ON BELIZE (L.23, CO-SPONSORED BY THE CENTRAL AMERICANS PLUS PARAGUAY AND THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC), WAS REJECTED BY A VOTE OF 18-91-26(US). END SUMMARY.

2. CONSIDERATION OF BELIZE DURING THE FOURTH COMMITTEE MEETING ON NOVEMBER 17 WAS CHARACTERIZED BY PROTACTED PROCEDURAL WRANGLING. FOLLOWING AN ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE URUGUYAN PERM REP, SPEAKING AS CHAIRMAN OF THE LATIN AMERICAN GROUP, THAT IT HAD NOT BEEN POSSIBLE TO ACHIEVE A CONSENSUS TEXT, BUT THAT CONSULTATIONS HAD BEEN CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 USUN N 04787 01 OF 02 180622Z

USEFUL IN CREATING A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF THE ISSUES, THERE WAS NO OBJECTION TO GUYANESE PERM REP JACKSON'S PROPOSAL THAT L.24 BE VOTED ON PRIOR TO L.23.

3. EL SALVADOR THEN PROPOSED TWO AMENDMENTS TO L.24. NOTING THAT PREAMBULAR PARA 8, (FORMERLY PREAMBULAR PARA 7) INACCURATELY QUOTED THE BOGOTA DECLARATION,

HE PROPOSED THAT THE PARAGRAPH BE DELETED AND REPLACED BY THE FOLLOWING: "NOTING THAT THE BOGOTA DECLARATION OF AUGUST 6, 1977 STATES THAT: 'ON THE QUESTION OF BELIZE, IT WAS AGREED THAT IT SHOULD BE SOLVED BY THE PEACEFUL METHODS ENSHRINED IN THE CHARTERS OF THE OAS AND UN AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH RESPECT FOR THE PRINCIPLES OF TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY AND FREE SELF-DETERMINATION OF PEOPLES."

- 4. THE SECOND EL SALVADORAN AMENDMENT WAS TO DELETE PREAMBULAR PARA 10 (FORMERLY PREAMBULAR PARA 9) OF L.24 AND REPLACE IT WITH THE FOLLOWING: "HAVING LEARNED THAT THE NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN GUATEMALA AND THE UK ON BELIZE HAVE MADE SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS, WHICH LEADS TO THE HOPE OF A PROMPT SETTLEMENT OF THE DISPUTE."
- 5. THE FIRST AMENDMENT UNLEASHED A CONFUSED DEBATE, WHICH TOOK UP A GOOD PART OF THE MEETING, CONCERNING THE TEXT OF THE BOGOTA DECLARATION. MEXICAN PERM REP ROSENZWEIG-DIAZ'S SUGGESTION THAT THE COMMITTEE AGREE THAT THE PARAGRAPH SHOULD INCLUDE THE AUTHORIZED VERSION OF THE BOGOTA DECLARATION (TO BE OBTAINED BY THE SECRETARIAT)-- WHATEVER IT SAID -- WAS REJECTED BY A NUMBER OF DELEGATIONS. COLOMBIAN PERM REP ZEA, WHO ARRIVED AFTER AN ADJOURNMENT TO PROPOSED BY THE CHAIRMAN TRY TO OBTAIN THE AUTHORIZED TEXT, SAID CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 USUN N 04787 01 OF 02 180622Z

THERE MIGHT BE A DISCREPANCY BETWEEN THE OFFICIAL VERSION, WHICH IS DEPOSITED IN BOGOTA, AND THE COLOMBIAN PRESS RELEASE OF THE TEXT. ZEA'S SUGGESTION THAT A DECISION BE POSTPONED UNTIL ARRIVAL OF THE TEXT, WHICH HE HAD JUST REQUESTED FROM THE MFA, WAS ALSO NOTE ACCEPTED.

- 6. THE FIRST AMENDMENT WAS DEJECTED BY A VOTE OF 21-96-23 (US, MALI, BURMA, SPAIN, VENEZUELA, COLOMBIA, ARGENTINA, BRAZIL, JAPAN, AMONG OTHERS). THE SECOND AMENDMENT WAS REJECTED BY A VOTE OF 13-102-19 (US, VENZUELA, BRAZIL, BURMA, BOLIVIA, AMONG OTHERS).
- 7. THERE FOLLOWS THE VOTE BREAKDOWN FOR L.24, 115-5-16(US). NO: COSTA RICA, EL SALVADOR, GUATEMALA, HONDURAS, NICARAGUA. ABSTAIN: ARGENTINA, BOLIVIA, BRAZIL, CHILE, COLOMBIA, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, ECUADOR, ISRAEL, JAPAN, MAURITANIA, MOROCCO, PARAGUAY, PERU, SPAIN, UNITED STATES, URUGUAY. ABSENT: DEMOCRATIC KAMPUCHEA, EQUATORIAL GUINEA, GAMBIA, LEBANON, MALAWI, MALTA, SAMOA, SAO TOME AND PRINCIPE, SOMALIA, SOUTH AFRICA, UGANDA, YEMEN. IN FAVOR: ALL OTHERS.

8. THERE FOLLOWS THE VOTE BREAKDOWN FOR L.23, 18-91-26 (US). IN FAVOR: ARGENTINA, CHILE, COSTA RICA, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, ECUADOR, EL SALVADOR, GREECE, GUATEMALA, HONDURAS, MAURITANIA, MOROCCO, NICARAGUA, PARAGUAY, PERU, PHILIPPINES, SPAIN, URUGUAY, VENEZUELA. ABSTAIN: AFGHANISTAN, AUSTRIA, BELGUIM, BOLIVIA, BRAZIL, BURMA, COLOMBIA, FRANCE, GABON, INDONESIA, IRAN, IRELAND, ISRAEL, ITALY, JAPAN, LUXEMBOURG, MAURITIUS, MEXICO, NEPAL, NETHERLANDS, PORTUGAL, ROMANIA, THAILAND, TURKEY, UNITED STATES. ABSENT: ALBANIA, DEMOCRATIC KAMPUCHEA, EQUATORIAL GUINEA, GAMBIA, LEBANON, MALAWI, MALTA, SAO TOME AND PRINCIPE, SEYCHELLES, SOMALIA, SOUTH AFRICA, CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 USUN N 04787 01 OF 02 180622Z

UGANDA, YEMEN. NOT-PARTICIPATING: CHINA. NO: ALLOTHERS.

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PAGE 01 USUN N 04787 02 OF 02 180622Z ACTION IO-14

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R 180034Z NOV 77 FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7625 INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON AMCONSUL BELIZE

CONFIDENTIAL SECTION 2 OF 2 USUN 4787

DEPT PASS TO ALL ARA DIPLOMATIC POSTS

BEGIN CONFIDENTIAL:

9. COMMENT: THE MOST SIGNIFICANT CHANGES IN THE

VOTING ON THE UK/CARIBBEAN BELIZE RESOLUTION (L.24) IN CAMPARISON TO LAST YEAR'S SIMILAR RESOLUTION (31/50) ARE THE SHIFT OF MEXIC AND VENEZUELA FROM ABSTENTION TO SUPPORT, ACCOMPANIED BY HAIT. FURTHER EROSION OF SUPPORT FOR GUATEMALA CAN BE SEEN IN THE VOTES OF BILIVIA, CHILE, PARAGUAY, AND URUGUAY WHO ALL MOVED FROM VOTES AGAINST LAST YEAR'S RESOLUTION TO ABSTENTIONS THIS YEAR. THERE WAS ALSO A DECREASE IN SUPPORT FOR THE GUATEMALAN RESOLUTION (L.23) IN COMPARISON WITH A/C4/L.1094 IN 1975. L.1094 WAS REJECTED BY A VOTE OF 22-62-41(US) COMPARED TO 18-91-26(US) FOR L.23. SOME OF THE LATINS WHICH SUPPORTED GUATEMALA IN 1975 ABSTAINED ON L.23 (BOLIVIA, BRAZIL AND COLOMBIA), MEXICO ABSTAINED AS IN 1975, AND PANAMA, WHICH SUPPORTED GUATEMALA ON L.1094, VOTED AGAINST L.23 AND WAS A COSPONSOR OF L.24. LEONARD

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 USUN N 04787 02 OF 02 180622Z

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